



# Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot *Oklahoma City, OK*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

**EPA's** Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 150 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

## BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Oklahoma City for a Brownfields Pilot. The city encompasses 621 square miles, making it the sixth-largest city in the country by land area. The size of this area has contributed to urban sprawl and the movement of commercial and industrial facilities to outlying greenfields. Companies interested in development have given little attention to inner city areas due to actual or perceived contamination of numerous properties and the availability of undeveloped greenfields. Oklahoma City received a federal Enterprise Community (EC) designation in 1994 for an 18-square-mile central city area. Although environmental and redevelopment progress is ongoing throughout much of the city, progress is slow in the EC.

## OBJECTIVES

The objective of Oklahoma City's brownfields redevelopment program is to bring together available resources to address environmental issues and revitalize priority sites in the older Bricktown neighborhood, the downtown area, and the EC. The Pilot funds will be used to conduct Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments and involve the community in site decision-making.

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



*Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

**Date of Announcement:**  
May 1998

**Amount:** \$200,000

**Profile:** The Pilot targets 11 properties for Phase I Environmental Site Assessments and 6 of those properties for Phase II assessments.

### Contacts:

Department of Public  
Works  
City of Oklahoma City  
(405) 297-2581

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA - Region 6  
(214) 665-6736

Visit the EPA Region 6 Brownfields web site at:  
[http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/  
bfpages/sfbfhome.htm](http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/bfpages/sfbfhome.htm)

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Using the city's geographic information system (GIS) to identify properties with a high potential for cleanup and redevelopment;
- Prioritizing identified sites to create a list of 11 candidate properties, emphasizing abandoned, condemned, and city-owned sites;
- Conducting Phase I environmental assessments at 11 properties;
- Conducting Phase II assessments at 6 of these 11 priority properties; and
- Creating a citizen's advisory group and conducting public meetings to obtain input from affected communities.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.